

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION CONGRESS
April 13, 2009

APPROVED MINUTES
(Approved September 14, 2009)

Members present: S. Davis, E. Gibson, E. Hampton, M. Miller, L. Nellis, J. Powers, L. Tinnerman, P. Wheeler.

Members absent: K. Hinton, M. Howard-Hamilton, M. Modesitt, E. Motycka.

1. Meeting called to order by Chair L. Tinnerman at 3:00 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes. S. Davis moved approval of the March 2, 2009 minutes. J. Powers seconded. Minutes were approved (6-0-0).
3. Old Business
 - A. Grade Appeal Policy.

Minor modifications have been made from the Senate approved version. L. Tinnerman will bring information on this. Congress needs to approve the new process to match the new policy.
 - B. New building and move.

This has been delayed until July 15. Faculty and staff can measure new offices next week.
 - C. Constitution sent to TEC.

The revised constitution has been sent to TEC as an informational item.
4. New Business
 - A. Coffman and Holmstedt Distinguished Professor selection committee

The selection committee (W. Barratt, P. Wheeler, C. Becker, and C. MacDonald) have reached a tie vote for the Coffman award. There is no approved policy to break a tie. The selection committee suggests it be split between two recipients, as both nominees are equally strong in all areas. S. Davis suggested that, in the absence of any policy to break a tie, the only fair thing is to have two awards given this year. S. Davis moves that we go into executive session for discussion. At the conclusion of the executive session, S. Davis moved we come out of executive session. S. Davis moved that we follow the recommendation of the selection committee and award to both nominees for the next three years. J. Powers seconded. Motion passed (5-0-0). S. Davis moved that creation of a policy for handling a tie vote be charged to the Coffman selection committee. P. Wheeler seconded. Motion passed (5-0-0).
 - B. ISU Diversity Council

J. Powers overviewed the structure and scope of work for the council. A handout was provided. J. Powers ask for advice from Congress on how a report might be crafted to provide insight to the community. S. Powers asked whether council documents are available on the council's website. J. Powers indicated that documents will be shared. S. Powers suggest that guidance on how a college or unit could enact implications of the council's report would be helpful, perhaps breaking down data by college and unit and providing recommendations on what to do at the local level. M. Miller suggested that a peer institution comparison would be helpful as well as units on campus that we could turn to as models. L. Tinnerman suggested that an outside person independently look at the data. S. Davis suggested that a summary of various actions be compiled, with specific attention given to cases that have been settled outside of court. To the extent possible, they should be broken down categorically into gender discrimination, racial discrimination, etc. S. Davis also suggests not relying solely on ISU data, gathering external corroboration, such as from the EEOC. S. Davis also suggested investigating the issue of homosexuality as a protected class. If we have added this to our statement, we have an obligation to treat it as such. If it is not treated in this manner, then the language should be removed. The question is whether or not the language around sexual orientation is purely symbolic. The council wants to identify both facilitators and inhibitors to diversity that are present at ISU. Members are encouraged to look at the website for more information. S. Davis suggested that appropriate exit interviews be conducted with faculty leaving the university.

5. Faculty Senate Representative Report

E. Hampton provided information on the actions of the Faculty Senate. This included information on the reduction in standing committees, the defeat of a motion to reduce TEC membership, and a vote presently out to faculty on allowing or disallowing student voting on committees.

6. Dean's Report

The new building will be open next Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 so faculty and staff can plan where furniture is going.

7. Chair's Report

There will be a meeting of Congress on May 11th, 2009.

8. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Eric Hampton, Congress Secretary